



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION 8

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Ref: 8EPR-ER

January 21, 2014

Mike England
Rico Town Manager
PO Box 9
Rico Co. 81332

Re: Rico Argentine Mine Site – Report Transmittals: Solids Repository Alternative Evaluation; Solids Repository Design and Operating Plan, and Preliminary Design – St Louis Tunnel Hydraulics Control Measures

Dear Mr. England:

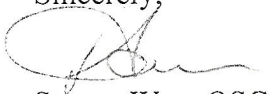
Please find enclosed the three subject reports submitted by Atlantic Richfield Company that present the findings and designs associated with water treatment solids management. Also included is the report of the control measures proposed to manage flow from the St Louis Tunnel.

As we discussed the work on the underground mine workings at the Blaine adit and 517-Shaft adit are larger complete at this time. The work in the Blaine in 2013 involved removing blockages that restricted flow within the Blaine system and caused water to backup at the coffer dam, which potentially threatened Silver Creek. We will continue to monitor the mine water flow within these adits, but at this time there are no significant operations planned for these adits.

The plans for 2014 include constructing demonstration-scale passive water treatment cells near Pond 18, and constructing the first cell for the water treatment solids repository. The repository construction will follow the County and State requirements for land use approvals, certificates of designation and designs.

If you have questions regarding this work please feel free to contact me. Thank you for your continued cooperation, and I look forward to seeing you this year.

Sincerely,


Steven Way, OSC
Response Unit



Enclosure



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